

# *Executive Proclamation*

## *State of South Dakota*

### *Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, Accidental poisonings can cause serious illness or death; and,

*Whereas*, Over-the-counter and prescription medications, household cleaning items, and insecticides are most often the cause of poisoning death; and,

*Whereas*, South Dakota generates over 6,000 poison exposure calls each year, with over 500 patients being transported by ambulance each year due to poison exposures; and,

*Whereas*, Most poisonings occur in children age six or younger and can be treated in the home with the direction of a certified Poison Control Center; and,

*Whereas*, Sioux Valley Poison Control Center provides this service to the residents of South Dakota 24 hours per day, every day, free of cost; and,

*Whereas*, The Sioux Valley Poison Education Center provides educational materials and poison prevention education to reduce the incidence of unintentional poisonings in South Dakota; and,

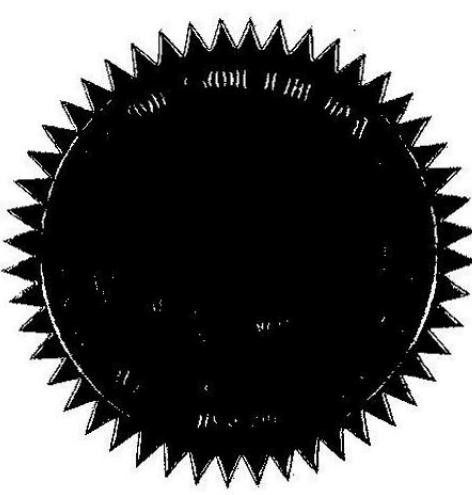
*Whereas*, National Poison Prevention Week is March 16 through March 22, 2003:

*Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds*, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim March 16-22, 2003, as

#### **Poison Prevention Week**

in South Dakota.

*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Seventh Day of March in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.



*M. Michael Rounds*  
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:



*Chris Nelson*  
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State